

System and Method for Facilitating Bilateral and Multilateral Decision-MakingAbstract

A method for facilitating evaluation, in connection with the procurement or
10 delivery of products or services, in at least one of (i) a potential financial
transaction and (ii) operation of an enterprise, each context involving a member of
a first class of parties in a first role and a member of a second class of
counterparties in a second role. The method of one embodiment includes:

- a. obtaining from each of the parties in the first class and storing in a first
15 digital storage medium responses to a first set of questions eliciting revelation of
preferences that can be used to estimate the closeness of such party's fit with a
counterparty in such context;
- b. obtaining from each of the counterparties in the second class and
20 storing in a second digital storage medium responses to a second set of questions
eliciting revelation of preferences that can be used to estimate the closeness of such
counterparty's fit with a party in such context;
- c. deriving, in a first computer process, from the responses of each such
25 party a first preference profile for each such party;
- d. deriving, in a second computer process, from the responses of each
such counterparty a second preference profile for each such counterparty;
- e. for each party, analyzing, in a third computer process, the preference
30 profile of such party in relation to the preference profiles of the counterparties to
derive a first list of counterparties providing a relatively close fit of such party's
preferences with those of counterparties on the list and communicating the list to
such party.